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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6917
BILL NUMBER: SB 219

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 27, 2010
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Evaluation of Appointments of Major Agency Heads.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Randolph
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: __X__ GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: *Joint Committee on Appointment of Major Agency Heads:* The bill establishes the Joint Committee on Appointment of Major Agency Heads consisting of eight members of the General Assembly. The bill requires the Committee to meet whenever its chair is notified by the Governor of the Governor's intent to make a major agency appointment to receive information and discuss the fitness and competence of the individual the Governor intends to appoint. The bill requires the Committee to report to the Governor and the Legislative Council its findings regarding the appointee's fitness and competence.

Major Agency Appointment: It defines "major agency appointment" as the Governor's appointment of:
(1) a member of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission;
(2) the Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation;
(3) the Secretary of Family and Social Services;
(4) the Director of the Department of Child Services;
(5) the Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management; or
(6) the Commissioner of Labor.

Term of Office: The bill provides that an individual appointed by the Governor to a major agency appointment does not take office until 45 days after the Governor notifies the chair of the Committee of the appointment.

Repeal: It repeals the statute that establishes the Utility Regulatory Commission Nominating Committee and a related noncode statute.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Joint Committee on Appointment of Major Agency Heads:* This bill establishes the eight-member Joint Committee on Appointment of Major Agency Heads (JCAMAH). The JCAMAH is to operate under the policies governing study committees adopted by the Legislative Council. Legislative Council resolutions in the past have established budgets for interim study committees in the amount of $9,500 per interim for committees with fewer than 16 members.

Term of Office: The head of a major agency would not take office until 45 days after the Governor notifies the head of the JCAMAH of the appointment. This is expected to have minimal fiscal impact, but may require an interim commissioner or secretary to remain in place for a longer period of time.

Repeal: The bill repeals the statute that establishes the seven-member Utility Regulatory Commission Nominating Committee. The committee meets when necessary, or at the call of the chair or four members of the committee. Committee members while performing committee duties receive a $35 salary per diem, plus traveling and other expenses.

Background: The JCAMAH will meet 10 business days after receiving the Governor's notice of intent to make a major appointment or at the call of the chair. The JCAMAH may meet even when the General Assembly is not in session. The Legislative Services Agency will provide staff to the JCAMAH, and the JCAMAH will electronically report to the Governor and the Legislative Council concerning information received by the JCAMAH and its discussion of the fitness and competence of the individual the Governor intents to appoint. The JCAMAH may make recommendations concerning appointments.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: IURC; INDOT; FSSA; IDEM; Department of Labor; Governor; Legislative Council.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: https://secure.in.gov/apps/govboards/BoardDetails.aspx?BoardId=11175

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